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President: Mr. Leopoldo BENITES (Ecuador).

AGENDA ITEM 15

Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

1. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): I invite Mr. Sigvard Eklund, Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, to present to the General Assembly the report of IAEA for the period 1 July 1972 to 30 June 1973.¹

2. Mr. EKLUND (Director-General, International Atomic Energy Agency): Three themes have been predominant in the work of IAEA during the past year: help to our developing member States; implementation of safeguards under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons [*resolution 2373 (XXII), annex*]; and expanding programmes to deal with the environmental impact of atomic energy.

3. The Agency's principal task under its statute is to make the benefits of peaceful uses of nuclear energy available throughout the world, bearing in mind the special needs of the developing countries.

4. For most parts of the world, the future role of nuclear power assumes special significance against the background of what has become known as the energy crisis. In certain areas the supply of energy is very vulnerable because of reliance on imported fuel.

5. The problems of securing supplies of conventional fuel—coal, oil and natural gas—favour the only alternative which is technically enough advanced at the present time, namely, nuclear power. As our annual report points out, IAEA estimates of future nuclear-power growth have been reasonably consistent since 1968—namely, that at the end of this decade 300,000 to 350,000 megawatts, or about 14 per cent of the world's installed electrical capacity, will be nuclear. We have been gratified to see a number of developing countries "take-off" in the nuclear field.

6. IAEA has recently completed a detailed survey of the power requirements up to the year 1990 of 14 developing

countries. I trust that national energy authorities, financing institutions and industry will find this survey useful for their future planning. IAEA will keep the survey up-to-date and expand it as new information becomes available. In carrying out the survey, the Agency has had to develop basic methods, procedures and tools, and especially new computer programmes which can help our Member States in projecting their electric power programmes. This type of survey work will become an on-going IAEA activity.

7. At present, most non-nuclear-weapon States with nuclear power programmes concern themselves with obtaining future supplies of enriched uranium. At the Agency's General Conference last month, I appealed to supplying member States to make available through IAEA sufficient quantities of enriched uranium to be transferred to developing countries under less stringent conditions than at present. Mexico was the first country to request IAEA to act as intermediary in the supply of nuclear fuel for a power reactor. Others might follow the same procedure, and IAEA should be prepared to respond to such requests.

8. There are other fields besides nuclear power where nuclear techniques can significantly contribute to economic and social welfare. In the past 10 years, the rate of increase in agricultural production in 42 developing countries has been less than the rate of population growth. I have become convinced by a recent expert review of the programme of the Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Atomic Energy in Food and Agriculture and by growing food shortages that IAEA should devote increased resources to help developing countries in their efforts to improve the nutrition situation.

9. The value of IAEA's own technical assistance programme is also shown by the extent to which it has opened the channel for the flow of larger multinational or bilateral aid. We have been highly encouraged to see the growing number of projects of the United Nations Development Programme [*UNDP*] that Governments are requesting in the nuclear energy field, as well as the very considerable counterpart contributions by the requesting Governments. Our technical assistance programme has been increasingly supplemented by help made available to IAEA from individual countries.

10. However, even though the total amount available for technical assistance has increased, its real value has been eroded by inflation and currency fluctuations. The target for contributions has remained at \$3 million since 1972 and will stand at that figure for 1974. In these circumstances, Member States have been asked to pledge voluntary contributions equal to, or more than, the counterpart of their assessed shares. It looks at present as if we may achieve 102 per cent of the 1974 target, which, I believe, would be

¹ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Annual Report, 1 July 1972-30 June 1973* (Vienna, July 1973) and corrigendum; transmitted to the members of the General Assembly by a note of the Secretary-General (A/9125 and Corr.1).

something of a United Nations record. Nevertheless, because of the monetary situation, it will be necessary to seek a substantial increase in the target for 1975 to cover the ground lost in the last few years.

11. Let me now turn to the next main theme of the Agency's work, safeguards and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

12. A step towards fuller implementation of the Treaty was taken in April this year with the signature of the agreement between IAEA and the non-nuclear-weapon States members of the European Atomic Energy Community [EURATOM]—Belgium, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, as well as EURATOM itself. This is the most significant safeguards agreement we have yet concluded. However, the time-table for the ratification of the Treaty and of the safeguards agreements with IAEA by all these EURATOM countries is not yet clear.

13. Preliminary talks on Treaty safeguards have continued with a number of other countries, and progress has been made in regard to the offers by the United States and the United Kingdom to place some of their peaceful nuclear plants under IAEA safeguards. The acceptance of IAEA safeguards by certain nuclear-weapon States on their civilian programme is a sign of confidence and goodwill and goes some way to prove the general acceptability of the IAEA's safeguards work.

14. Nevertheless, I am personally very concerned about the rate of actual implementation of the Treaty. While 78 non-nuclear-weapon States have now ratified the Treaty and 45 Treaty safeguards agreements have been concluded, several of the latter have not been fully finalized; in other cases, negotiation is overdue, and sometimes long overdue. I appeal to delegations from the Treaty countries to bring to the attention of their Governments the mandatory requirement under article III of the Treaty to conclude safeguards agreements with the Agency. Moreover, there are several key countries which have not yet ratified the Treaty or have disassociated themselves from it.

15. My remarks should not be interpreted in a negative way, but we must look at the situation realistically. It goes without saying that the continuous testing of nuclear weapons in various environments is not taken as an encouragement by the non-nuclear-weapon States that are being urged to join the Treaty. A complete test ban and the strict adherence by all States to the Treaty would serve to allay concerns and to reinvigorate the concepts of the Treaty and the IAEA statute and would constitute a positive step towards the exclusive use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

16. Another positive step would be an agreement to cut off the production of fissile material—plutonium and enriched uranium—for weapons purposes. This idea has received support in the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament in Geneva. IAEA services could be employed to make available material no longer used for military purposes to other States for their peaceful programmes. In this way, IAEA would be fulfilling one of the statutory roles foreseen by its founders.

17. There have been some positive developments, albeit outside the framework of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. Perhaps the most important is the more realistic appraisal by many threshold non-nuclear-weapon States that their best interests are not served by acquiring nuclear weapons. The Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (Treaty of Tlatelolco), which will be considered under item 36 of the agenda of the General Assembly, has been given new impetus by the signature of protocol II by France and the People's Republic of China.

18. As the Assembly is aware, the future of the non-proliferation Treaty will be influenced by progress in nuclear arms control and disarmament. Furthermore, it is my profound personal conviction that prevention of war of any kind is a necessary condition for the development of nuclear power for peaceful purposes. The extensive precautions we are taking to prevent radioactive emissions from nuclear plants would be nullified if these plants became the object of warfare. A condition *sine qua non* for the widespread use of nuclear power is that peace be maintained.

19. In 1975 the conference on the non-proliferation Treaty will review the operation of the Treaty "with a view to assuring that the purposes of the Preamble and the provisions of the Treaty are being realized" [resolution 2373 (XXII), annex, article VIII, para. 3]. I believe that IAEA, for its part, can go to the review conference with confidence in its safeguards performance under the Treaty. Thanks to the willingness of member States to set up, or adapt, national and regional systems for nuclear materials accounting and control, we have been able to adjust IAEA's system to meet the requirements of the Treaty. The safeguarding function has received greatly increased impetus and significance through the Treaty. IAEA's safeguarding activities may well stand as a pioneering effort for developing future systems of verification and control in arms limitation or disarmament agreements.

20. The General Assembly has in the past taken an interest in the use of nuclear explosives for peaceful purposes. IAEA held the third in a series of international meetings on this subject in November 1972, and plans to hold the next one in 1974. We are continuing to study scientific, technical and safety aspects of this technology as well as means of providing services in this field to interested member States. The Agency has adopted guidelines for the appropriate international observation by IAEA of nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes.

21. That leads me to another main theme of IAEA's work—environmental protection.

22. The Agency's own programmes in nuclear safety have been expanded this year through voluntary contributions and some reordering of priorities. As an impartial international body, IAEA can help its Member States by working out standards, codes of practice and regulations which can be used by national atomic energy authorities. IAEA can also assist the licensing authorities in Member States by studying problems arising in the safety assessments of nuclear plants. We have also recently instituted missions which visit member States, particularly developing coun-

tries, at their request, to look at their plants and advise them on nuclear safety matters.

23. In November 1972, the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter was adopted by an international conference in London. The Convention designates IAEA, as the competent body, to define high-level radioactive matter which must not be dumped at sea. It also calls upon the parties to the Convention to take account of IAEA recommendations when they issue permits for the dumping of other radioactive matter. Our work on both those points is well under way and we hope to submit our recommendations early next year.

24. We have established good relations with the United Nations Environment Programme [UNEP] and expect its help in launching several new projects which fit within the recommendations made by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm in June 1972. UNEP will also support new work by the Agency's Monaco Laboratory on the study of non-radioactive pollutants in the sea on the basis of a joint proposal by IAEA and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization [UNESCO].

25. I should like to mention two other important developments in IAEA. The amendment of the Statute enlarging the Board of Governors has now come into force. The developing countries now have fuller representation on the Board of Governors. Also, at the last session of the General Conference the German Democratic Republic and Mongolia became members of IAEA.

26. The Agency is enjoying fruitful collaboration with several agencies in the United Nations family as well as with the United Nations Secretariat. I am, however, concerned about the ever-increasing workload involved in supplying different organs of the United Nations with information which has been already supplied to them but for which in many cases there is a desire for compilation in another way. I hope for continued understanding of the Agency's efforts to avoid involving the IAEA secretariat in paperwork of very little or no avail.

27. I should like also to mention our concern about the tremendous proliferation of meetings, even those of a scientific or technical nature. IAEA, I am sure, is not the only organization within the United Nations family to suffer from this disease. National and regional bodies also contribute to this proliferation of international meetings. In the future, IAEA intends to be more selective in convening its own scientific meetings, while giving greater stress to the possibility of holding such meetings in developing countries.

28. I should like to conclude by noting that continuing scientific and technological developments, together with the trend toward the improvement of the world political situation, will facilitate for IAEA the achievement of the objective entrusted to it by the Member States.

29. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): On behalf of the General Assembly I wish to thank Mr. Eklund,

Director-General of IAEA, for his introduction of the report of that Agency.

30. I shall now call on those representatives who wish to introduce draft resolution A/L.703.

Mr. Humaidan (United Arab Emirates), Vice-President, took the Chair.

31. Mr. OGISO (Japan): I should like first of all to welcome Mr. Sigvard Eklund, Director-General of IAEA, to the twenty-eighth session of the General Assembly and to congratulate him on his eloquent and lucid statement on the Agency's activities.

32. We have just heard Mr. Eklund's detailed report in which, in his usual manner, he has given us some insight into one of the most important fields of scientific development and a full and clear picture of international co-operation in the nuclear field.

33. It is indeed a great pleasure to introduce on behalf of the sponsors—namely, Czechoslovakia, Denmark and Japan—draft resolution A/L.703 on the annual report of IAEA. Since this brief draft resolution is intended in the usual manner to take note of the report of the Agency and express the appreciation of the General Assembly for its important work, I do not think it needs lengthy comment. But I shall try to explain several of its aspects.

34. The preambular paragraphs are self-explanatory.

35. Operative paragraph 1 takes note of the annual report of the Agency, which, I am happy to note, emphasizes its expanded activities, including the preservation of the human environment and the improvement of technological standards in the developing countries.

36. Operative paragraph 2 acknowledges the Agency's expansion of the membership of its Board of Governors. I consider it most fitting for the Agency to give increased representation on the Board of Governors to developing countries, since its tasks are expanding rapidly and wider representation, particularly for developing countries, is required.

37. Operative paragraph 3 expresses the General Assembly's appreciation of the further increase in technical co-operation activities. The total resources available to the Agency in this field in 1973 amounted to \$6.8 million, as compared with \$6.2 million in 1972 and \$5.4 million in 1971. We note with appreciation the steady increase in the Agency's activities in that very important field and express the hope that IAEA will continue to increase them.

38. Operative paragraph 4 notes with appreciation the work of the Agency in surveying present and future nuclear energy requirements in developing countries and the Agency's aim of carrying out such surveys as an ongoing IAEA activity. In view of the energy requirements of the developing countries, which are increasing rapidly, I consider this work very important, and I think it appropriate to express our appreciation for it.

39. Operative paragraph 5 commends the Agency for the progress it has made in fulfilment of its extremely important responsibilities in the field of safeguards. As is stated in the annual report, the Agency has concluded safeguards agreements with 37 non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and 26 of those agreements had entered into force by 30 June 1973. In the view of my delegation, one of the most important developments with regard to safeguards was the signing by IAEA of a safeguards agreement with EURATOM and the non-nuclear-weapon States members of EURATOM. Progress is also reported in the consultations with regard to offers by the United Kingdom and the United States to place certain of their nuclear activities under Agency safeguards system.

40. Operative paragraph 6 requires no explanation.

41. I hope that the present happy co-operation between the United Nations and IAEA will become even closer, for the benefit of all mankind.

42. I should like to conclude by expressing the earnest hope that draft resolution A/L.703 will be adopted unanimously.

43. Mr. MORTENSEN (Denmark): Every year the Danish authorities acquaint themselves with the greatest pleasure with the annual report of IAEA on its activities and accomplishments during the past year. Similarly, we have today heard with appreciation the statement of the Director-General, Mr. Sigvard Eklund, introducing the report to this session of the General Assembly.

44. In presenting to us the main lines of the Agency's activities, Mr. Eklund has made a valuable and constructive contribution to our debate. We commend him on his skill in managing such varied and important programmes in spite of the modest resources available to the Agency. We look to the future with confidence, trusting that the Agency and its Director-General will be able to deal efficiently with the issues and problems facing them.

45. During the past year Denmark has had the privilege of serving as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Governors, and we have been grateful to have had this opportunity to take an active part in the efforts to solve challenging and complex problems. The report before us reflects what, in our opinion, has been a successful year in the work of the Agency. It is therefore an honour for my delegation to introduce, together with the delegations of Czechoslovakia and Japan, draft resolution A/L.703. It is with special gratification that we, in the words of the draft resolution, acknowledge "the action taken to expand the membership of the Board of Governors, providing for increased representation of the developing countries". These countries will now have the opportunity to participate more fully in the work which is of such great importance to their economic and social development. I believe the General Assembly will adopt the draft resolution by acclamation.

46. Mr. VEJVODA (Czechoslovakia): IAEA ranks among those international bodies which, through their activities and achievements, contribute to the strengthening of peace, security and co-operation among peoples. Moreover, IAEA

enables international co-operation to take place in a field of such vital importance for modern times as research in and exploitation of nuclear physics and atomic energy for the benefit of peace and the prosperity of mankind undoubtedly constitutes.

47. The Czechoslovak Government appreciates the positive results achieved by the Agency in the past year. The fact that the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic has become a sponsor of draft resolution A/L.703—which, we believe, will be adopted unanimously by the General Assembly—can be viewed as a manifestation of the positive assessment on our part of the Agency's work in the last year. We feel particularly responsible for the work of the Agency, as we are members of its Board of Governors. I should like to take this opportunity to emphasize the positive contribution made by Mr. Sigvard Eklund, the Director-General of IAEA, who has headed the Agency for a number of years, whose work we hold in high esteem, and whose re-election we have welcomed.

48. I cannot fail to recall in my statement an event of great significance in the recent history of our Organization, that is, the admission to membership in IAEA of the German Democratic Republic and the Mongolian People's Republic. We have welcomed their admission as a result of the long-lasting efforts exerted by the socialist countries, including my own and a number of other States, to implement the principle of universality of membership in IAEA. The achievements scored by the German Democratic Republic over a long period in the field of peaceful research in and exploitation of nuclear energy will indeed be an indisputable contribution to the whole Agency. The Mongolian People's Republic also has taken a number of positive steps in this area. Both countries have also concluded with IAEA safeguard agreements within the framework of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

49. Czechoslovakia views the main mission of IAEA as being related to the major international issues of the present-day world, such as the strengthening of peace, security and co-operation among nations. Therefore, we consider as very important operative paragraphs 3 and 4 of the draft resolution, which concern the activities of IAEA in the field of technical assistance to the developing countries.

50. One of the major steps taken by IAEA in respect to other international issues—namely, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons—has indeed been the safeguards agreements. Czechoslovakia supports those agreements and has already shown its preparedness to co-operate with IAEA in this field. That is why we commend IAEA, as is stated in operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution, for the progress it has made in meeting its responsibilities in this field.

51. However, it is our belief that, in spite of the good administrative and technical functioning of the Agency in implementing its safeguards, there still exist open opportunities to enhance the effectiveness of the safeguards, particularly in the system of registry and surveillance of nuclear materials.

52. As a contribution to our co-operation with IAEA in the field of safeguards, we would cite particularly the co-operation of our scientific and technological research insti-

tutions with the Development Section of the Department of Safeguards and Inspection of the Agency's secretariat. The Czechoslovak Nuclear Research Institute has created conditions for an analytical service of samples of nuclear materials, and is making preparations to develop semi-conductor detectors for the use of IAEA in the field of safeguards.

53. We are also seeking, in co-operation with IAEA, ways to make our Nuclear Power Institute and our nuclear station, which have recently begun to function, participate in the research work in the field of safeguards. It is this very activity that we see as our contribution to enhancing the effectiveness of safeguards. We hope that other States members of IAEA will follow suit.

54. When we speak about enhancing the effectiveness of the Agency's work, let me state that what we have in mind in the first place is the Agency's budget. What we should like to ensure is that IAEA and its member States do not, through their contributions, pay for the long-lasting inflation and the over-all crisis in the Western monetary system. We nevertheless fully support that part of the Agency's budget which relates to safeguards and surveillance, as well as to environmental protection and the prospective fields of IAEA activities.

55. Czechoslovakia, as an advanced industrial country with limited resources of energy, has developed its co-operation with IAEA in the field of nuclear energy. We are continuing the construction of nuclear power plants of a universal nature to produce both electric and thermal energy. We therefore highly appreciate the programmes of IAEA in the field of nuclear energy and the protection of the human environment.

56. With regard to our building universal nuclear power stations under our conditions, we have welcomed the efforts exerted by IAEA in its research into the effects produced by bringing nuclear sources nearer to densely populated areas, which thus far have been affected to a considerable degree by the classical sources of industrial emissions.

57. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic stands ready also in the future to do whatever it can in order to promote the successful work of IAEA, which we consider to be one of the most important and useful among the systems of international organizations.

58. As regards draft resolution A/L.703, we hope that it will be adopted without delay after the debate on it is concluded.

59. Mr. WYZNER (Poland): The Polish delegation has been greatly impressed by the annual report covering the activities of IAEA for the year 1972-1973, as well as by the most informative and valuable introductory statement made by the Agency's Director-General, Mr. Eklund. Both the statement and the report give us better understanding of the role which the Agency plans, in particular, with regard to the matters to which special attention was given in the period covered by the report: that is, the negotiation of safeguards agreements in connexion with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, assistance to developing countries and the impact of nuclear energy on the environment.

60. My Government's evaluation of the work done by the Agency in general, as well as in the specific fields that I have mentioned, is favourable.

61. The period of time which we have been reviewing under the present item has brought about some positive developments in the realm of the IAEA responsibilities which I should like to touch upon briefly.

62. First, the process of détente and progress in the development of international co-operation has had a direct bearing upon the problems of international security, including the restriction of the arms race in the field of nuclear armaments, which, in turn, are closely related with the perspectives for the peaceful utilization of the atom and, thus, the work of the Agency. In this connexion one can hardly overestimate the significance of the agreements concluded between the Soviet Union and the United States during the summit meeting of this year, in particular the Agreement on Scientific and Technical Co-operation in the Field of Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, the agreement on the Basic Principles of Negotiations on the Further Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, and the Agreement on the Prevention of Nuclear War.

63. Poland, naturally, attaches great importance to the events taking place in Europe. The Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, and the negotiations on the reduction of armed forces and arms in Central Europe, which are scheduled to begin tomorrow in Vienna, offer a new hope for further consolidation of peaceful coexistence and co-operation to that region of extraordinary strategic significance.

64. Second, there has been further meaningful progress towards the universality of the Agency, as illustrated by the admission of the new socialist members: the German Democratic Republic and Mongolia. My delegation has repeatedly stressed the fact that the German Democratic Republic has constantly supported various disarmament measures, was one of the first States to become a party to the non-proliferation Treaty and to conclude a safeguards agreement with the Agency. A State that is highly advanced in the peaceful uses of atomic energy should be given the right to participation in the IAEA, as well as in other international organizations. We therefore welcome with satisfaction the admission to the Agency of the new members, that is, the German Democratic Republic and Mongolia, and express our conviction that this development will have a positive effect upon its future work.

65. Third, further progress has been registered by the Agency in discharging its responsibilities under article III of the non-proliferation Treaty, and additional safeguards agreements have been concluded by the Agency with a number of States, bringing the total to 37 at the end of the period under review. As we learned from the statement of Mr. Eklund, this number has now risen to 45 States. Among others, the safeguards agreement between Poland and the Agency entered into force on 11 October 1972.

66. My delegation feels that in view of the exceptional character of the non-proliferation Treaty as one of the crucial international instruments in the field of arms limitation aimed at preventing the spread of nuclear armaments,

it is of immediate interest to the international community as a whole to assure the wide participation in and strict observance of the Treaty by all States, especially those with advanced nuclear technology. Of no less importance is the securing, through the safeguards agreement, the effective means of control over actual implementation of the basic provisions of the Treaty.

67. It is therefore with some anxiety that we note there are still a large number of countries, including those with advanced nuclear capability, that remain beyond the scope of the obligatory rules regarding the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, as well as of appropriate safeguards provided by the Agency. My delegation hopes, however, that the positive trend towards the wider application of these international instruments will continue at an accelerated rate.

68. In view of the manifold character of the activities undertaken by the Agency, it is impossible to cover them all in this brief intervention. Accordingly, I should like to limit myself to one or two other aspects of the work of IAEA which the Polish delegation considers of particular relevance.

69. One of them is the International Nuclear Information System. We believe that the creation of the System only three years ago, its functioning and recent expansion to cover the full range of nuclear information, constitute a notable success for the Agency. In view of the multiple activities undertaken in many countries in the field of nuclear science, research and technology, a well-organized system of complete information has great value, particularly for small and medium-sized countries, that cannot command easy access to various international sources of information. Scientific information provided by the Agency eliminates overlapping and the duplication of parallel research in other States, thus making possible a well-oriented and resourceful utilization of scientific research in any country. We note with satisfaction that in view of the successful operation of the System, other international organizations have initiated studies on the feasibility of establishing systems of information in their respective fields.

70. Another sphere of the Agency's activities, to which we attach particular importance, is assistance to developing countries, including the introduction of nuclear energy and the use of nuclear techniques in agriculture. We feel that IAEA deserves support from its membership for the useful work done in that field. For this reason, Poland has substantially been increasing its voluntary contribution to the technical assistance programme over the last two years.

71. Of no less importance is, no doubt, the environmental aspect of the Agency's operations. Experience has demonstrated that perhaps no other field of human activities is potentially more dangerous to the survival of man or requires more protection from imminent hazards. If we take into account the fact that in addition to harmful effects of radiation and releases from nuclear facilities geared to the peaceful application of nuclear energy there is a danger of radiation caused by atmospheric nuclear tests, which continue to be conducted by certain nuclear Powers, the need for energetic protection of the natural environment becomes obvious. Poland co-operates with the Agency in undertak-

ing environmental studies which, we hope, will prove helpful in protecting mankind from the risks involved in the use of nuclear energy. Furthermore, my delegation believes that the Agency should acquire the leading role within the United Nations system as a co-ordinator of the activities in this special field of protection of the environment.

72. Let me conclude by reiterating Poland's support for the activities of IAEA aimed at enhancing international co-operation in the peaceful use of atomic energy. We realize that the successes achieved by the Agency are largely due to the untiring efforts and the leadership of Mr. Sigvard Eklund, whose contribution as well as that of his able colleagues to the Agency's work we all value very highly.

73. Mr. ROSHCHIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (*translation from Russian*): The activities of IAEA at a time when atomic energy is being widely used for many purposes are closely bound up with the problem of ensuring international security and with the task of limiting the arms race and achieving disarmament. The trend of international relations towards an easing of tension, the firmer establishment of the principles of peaceful coexistence and the strengthening of trust between peoples have tremendous influence on international life as a whole.

74. More favourable conditions are being created for international co-operation, including co-operation in the peaceful uses of the atom. The agreements concluded between the Soviet Union and the United States on strategic arms limitation and on the prevention of nuclear war will go down in the history of our era as the concrete result of efforts by States to slow down and stop the nuclear arms race and to remove the threat of nuclear war.

75. It is quite obvious that our task is to supplement the political détente throughout the world by military détente so that all States and peoples may enjoy the benefits of the general improvement in the international climate which is now beginning. Prospects are favourable for a reduction of the military budgets of States which are permanent members of the Security Council and for the utilization of part of the funds thus saved to provide assistance to developing countries. The Soviet Union considers that the accomplishment of this task would also have a beneficial influence on the expansion of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

76. The process of improving the international situation is also having a beneficial effect on the activities of IAEA, whose international authority is growing steadily as the Agency's contribution to the further expansion of the peaceful uses of atomic energy throughout the world increases. All the States which are members of IAEA, including the developing countries which are tackling the problems of accelerated economic and social development, are interested in seeing the Agency accomplish its task.

77. The Soviet delegation has frequently emphasized that the success of the Agency's activities can be furthered by the application of that all-important principle governing the participation of States in the activities of any international organization—the principle of universality. The Soviet Union notes with satisfaction the decision taken at the seventeenth session of the General Conference of IAEA to

admit the German Democratic Republic and the Mongolian People's Republic as members. That decision is in accordance with the interests of the development of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy and the broadening of relationships between IAEA and the countries of the world.

78. The growth of the international authority of IAEA is also connected with the immense and important work being done by the Agency in carrying out safeguard functions under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. That Treaty, which has taken a prominent place among existing agreements in the field of disarmament and which has received broad international recognition, is an important step towards preventing the proliferation of atomic weapons throughout the world. The Agency's performance of the safeguard functions provided for by the Treaty is of tremendous significance for the implementation of this important international instrument. The achievement of the goal of preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons offers the parties to the Treaty favourable prospects for international co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

79. The Soviet delegation would like to emphasize in this connexion that the task of strengthening peace and developing international co-operation in the peaceful uses of the atom constantly urges upon our attention the question of increasing the number of States parties to the non-proliferation Treaty. It is therefore extremely important that countries which have not yet adhered to that Treaty should become parties to it as quickly as possible, thus making the Treaty a universal international agreement.

80. The safeguard functions entrusted to IAEA under the Treaty increase the Agency's international responsibility. In recent years IAEA has done a great deal of work specifically related to the carrying out of those safeguard functions. Safeguard agreements have been concluded with 43 States which do not possess nuclear weapons. Practically all the non-nuclear States parties to the Treaty in which work is being done on the peaceful uses of atomic energy have already placed or are placing their peaceful nuclear activities under IAEA safeguards. In order to confirm the principle of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons it is important that all States parties to the Treaty, even if they are not carrying out any peaceful nuclear activity at present, should conclude the relevant safeguard agreements with the Agency.

81. The Soviet delegation notes with satisfaction the signing in the spring of this year of a safeguards agreement between IAEA and the non-nuclear States members of EURATOM. The next step is ratification of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons by the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg and the entry into force of the agreement. We hope that Japan also will conclude the relevant safeguards agreement with IAEA in the very near future and will ratify the Treaty.

82. The enhancement of the role of IAEA as the organizer of international co-operation in the peaceful utilization of atomic energy, the assumption by the Agency of important safeguard functions under the Treaty and the increase in

recent years in the number of States members of the Agency have made it necessary to increase the membership of its executive body, the Board of Governors. In view of the wish expressed by many countries members of IAEA, the Soviet Union accepted the amendment adopted at the fourteenth session of the General Conference of IAEA to article VI A to D of the Agency's statute, which provided for an increase in the membership of the Board of Governors. It is the assumption of the Soviet Union that the Board of Governors, with its new membership, will be effective in guiding the activities of the Agency.

83. The development of science and technology, including atomic technology, is now becoming increasingly international and requires that the various countries should unite their efforts to find new approaches, some of them global in nature. At the same time, the solution of scientific and technological problems is becoming more and more costly in present conditions, and it is sometimes very difficult for individual countries, even the developed States, to achieve it on their own. That is why scientific and technological co-operation between States, co-ordination of their plans and the drawing up of joint projects is becoming increasingly important at this time. A convincing example of that approach is the comprehensive programme for economic integration which was adopted by the member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance [CMEA] and in the context of which co-operation between them in the field of atomic science and technology is developing and expanding successfully.

84. Joint scientific research, engineering and technical work under bilateral agreements between the Soviet Union and the United States, France, the Federal Republic of Germany and other States is being carried out successfully.

85. The purpose of the broad international co-operation of the Soviet Union in the field of atomic science and technology is to further as rapidly as possible the work of satisfying the fast growing power needs of the world, which is of paramount importance for world scientific progress. The results of the studies which have been carried out in the context of bilateral co-operation between the Soviet Union and other countries, the experience which has been gained and the results of the studies undertaken by scientific centres in our country will be made available to other countries through such channels as international co-operation, international conferences, symposia, scientific and technological journals, and the IAEA-INIS information system.

86. The Soviet Union continues to attach great importance to the practical application of atomic energy in the economy of the USSR and is successfully developing atomic power technology. In 1973, the fast neutron breeder reactor in the city of Shevchenko was switched over to producing power, the Kola atomic power station was started up, and the first unit of the Leningrad atomic power station, with a capacity of 1 million kilowatts, was prepared for start-up. The Soviet Union is actively involved in the IAEA technical assistance programme, and for this purpose it makes voluntary contributions to the technical assistance programme of the Agency.

87. The delegation of the USSR stated at the seventeenth session of the General Conference of IAEA that the

Government of the USSR had decided to increase its voluntary contribution to the IAEA technical assistance fund to 400,000 roubles in national currency. These funds can be utilized by the Agency for the purchase and delivery of Soviet equipment, instruments and material to help the developing countries in accordance with the IAEA programme.

88. On the whole, our assessment of the Agency's activities during 1972-1973 is a favourable one. As we have said, we regard this activity as being of great scientific and practical significance, and we endorse the report submitted by IAEA for consideration at the current session of the General Assembly [A/9125 and Corr. I]. The Soviet delegation will also vote in favour of the draft resolution submitted by the delegations of Japan, Denmark and Czechoslovakia [A/L.703].

89. At the same time, the Soviet delegation expresses the hope that IAEA will continue to develop successfully international co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy for the good of the peoples of all countries of the world.

90. In conclusion, Mr. President, the delegation of the USSR would like to join previous speakers in conveying its congratulations to Mr. Eklund on his re-election as Director-General of the Agency for another four-year term. For 12 years now, Mr. Eklund, as the chief administrator of the IAEA secretariat, has been guiding successfully the practical work of the Agency. We hope that he will continue to work actively and fruitfully for the benefit of that international organization and for the benefit of the members of IAEA.

Mr. Benites (Ecuador) resumed the Chair.

91. Mr. BUCHANAN (United States of America): I wish to thank Director-General Eklund for the annual report of IAEA which we have before us and to commend him and the staff of the Agency for their efforts and their accomplishments. IAEA continues to make important contributions to the advancement of the peaceful uses of atomic energy. It is clear also from the Director-General's report that the Agency is identifying and acting upon those matters and issues which will loom large in the future. I am pleased, on behalf of my Government, to assure Mr. Eklund of the support of the United States for the IAEA programme. There is no better measure of confidence in him and in the Agency than his unanimous re-election last month in Vienna to a fourth term as Director-General.

92. The Director-General has identified as the predominant themes in the IAEA's work over the past year as: help to developing member States; the implementation of safeguards under the non-proliferation Treaty; and the expansion of programmes to deal with the environmental impact of atomic energy.

93. The provision of assistance in the development and practical application of atomic energy for peaceful purposes has always been one of the cardinal tasks of the Agency. On a global scale, IAEA's programmes with the developing countries may appear to be small, but they should be considered as seed capital, as modest but highly significant beginnings which can and do lead to expanded activities.

An excellent example is the detailed market survey of the power requirements of 14 developing countries referred to by Mr. Eklund. This study should prove invaluable to the countries surveyed and to the government and private institutions interested in programmes of development and co-operation. The United States will continue to be a strong supporter of IAEA in this and other activities designed to assist the developing countries in industry, health, agriculture and other key sectors.

94. In like manner, the United States continues its strong support for the IAEA safeguards programme. The implementation, under the non-proliferation Treaty, of procedures for effectively safeguarding nuclear material against diversion from peaceful to military purposes is of the highest importance for peace and stability. We are particularly gratified that IAEA has signed an agreement during this past year with the non-nuclear-weapon States members of EURATOM and with EURATOM itself. We associate ourselves firmly with the appeal of the Director-General to non-proliferation Treaty countries for the early conclusion and ratification of the safeguards agreements.

95. The United States also recognizes and strongly supports the role of IAEA in the third major area described by the Director-General, that of expanding programmes to deal with the environmental impact of atomic energy. IAEA has strengthened its programmes for nuclear safety in ways which benefit member countries now entering the nuclear-power field as well as the States which are already well established in this sector. The Agency has assumed an important role in the formulation of recommendations and the development of standards to avoid marine pollution by the dumping of radioactive wastes. We believe IAEA also has an important role to perform in the new UNEP and we know the Director-General will be co-operating closely with the Executive Director of that Programme.

96. Pressing national and international concerns over present and future sources of energy and power are much with us these days. One trend appears to be clear, namely, that nuclear energy in the decades to come will be looked to as an increasingly important source of power. IAEA is uniquely qualified to deal with the environmental problems associated with the growth of nuclear power. Because of its acknowledged expertise and the respect which it commands, the Agency is in a position to address, on an international scale, the concerns expressed by environmentalists, to place those concerns in their proper perspective, and to assist in gaining public understanding of nuclear power.

97. In making available the benefits of the peaceful uses of atomic energy on a global scale, in safeguarding nuclear materials, and in assuming a prominent role in the formulation and application of environmental, health and safety regulations, IAEA continues to make an important contribution to progress and peace in the world. The accomplishments and the programme of IAEA deserve the full backing of the General Assembly and the United Nations family.

98. Mr. SANISLAV (Romania) (*interpretation from French*): The report of IAEA, the subject of our present debate, offers us a summary of the Agency's activities during the past year and of the principal problems confronting it at the present time.

99. This picture was rounded out in substantial fashion by the important statement just made by the Director-General, who, with his customary eloquence and competence, set forth the general lines of the Agency's activities, thus offering a new constructive and valuable contribution to our debate.

100. Before setting forth its views on this item, the Romanian delegation would like to give expression to the great esteem in which it holds Mr. Eklund for his tireless service in the direction of IAEA. We would also like to offer, to Mr. Eklund and to the Agency as a whole, our wishes for fresh successes in the development of international co-operation for the peaceful use of nuclear energy, a vital field for the future of mankind.

101. The contemporary era is characterized by, among other things, an upsurge in the development of atomic and nuclear applications in an ever-increasing number of fields in economic and social life. Among those applications, the industrial use of nuclear energy is one of the most hopeful activities. The cause of this is the growing need for energy arising from the rapid development of industry and the limited reserves of the conventional fuels used for the production of electric power.

102. The report submitted, with its realistic evaluation of the activities undertaken by IAEA during the past year, faithfully reflects the achievements of the organization during the period under review and serves to confirm once more the positive opinion held by Romania concerning the possibilities for the Agency in encouraging international co-operation in the field of the peaceful applications of nuclear energy.

103. The democratization of international life and the creation of a new type of relationship among States, a relationship of co-operation and mutual understanding, are possible only on the basis of respect for the principles of international law, of absolute equality of rights, of respect for national independence and sovereignty, of non-interference in the domestic affairs of other States, of mutual benefit, of renunciation of the use or threat of force, and of the right of every people to decide its own future for itself. In view of the wide support accorded these principles, the Romanian delegation, at the seventeenth General Conference of IAEA, proposed that an international legal instrument be drawn up and adopted laying down the principles for international co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy, an action designed, in our view, to contribute to the creation of the necessary conditions enabling all States to participate with complete freedom in the development of the peaceful applications of nuclear energy and to enjoy the benefits thereof on a footing of equality.

104. The problems of the peaceful uses of atomic energy as a means for carrying mankind forward toward new goals of progress and civilization are, by reason of their very dimensions and implications, universal in nature. Their solution, therefore, calls for the guaranteeing of such conditions as will enable all States, regardless of size or social and political systems, to participate in the consideration and solution of these questions. In the circumstances, the participation of all States in the activities of IAEA as the principal forum set up for the purpose of furthering international

co-operation should rest strictly on the principle of universality.

105. Now that the lawful rights of the People's Republic of China in IAEA have been restored and the German Democratic Republic and the Mongolian People's Republic have been admitted to that organization at the last session of the General Conference, the immediate task of the Vienna Agency is to ensure that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and other interested States, are no longer kept outside the organization.

106. Among the many activities undertaken by IAEA during the period under review, we should like to recall those undertaken in the field of nuclear energy, an aspect to which the Agency, in accordance with the interests of the member States, attaches particular importance. We wish to note particularly in this area the actions taken in scientific organization by the Agency to inform member States of the exceedingly complex series of problems involved in nuclear energy. The technical and economic studies, the groups of experts and the scientific gatherings have tackled a broad range of subjects, from the already conventional to the most modern ones involving fast reactors.

107. The manner in which the Agency has so far performed its tasks in this field offers us the assurance that it will be able to play an active role in all aspects of the industrial use of atomic energy, and that it will continue to broaden the sphere of its attention to the entire cycle of nuclear fuels.

108. Along the same lines, the activity of the Agency in the applications of isotopes and radiation in industry, in agriculture, in medicine, in biology, in hydrobiology, etc., undertaken on the basis of contracts concluded with many countries, has expanded and become more selective. In our opinion, the activities concerning the formulation of standards and recommendations for protection against radiation and for the security of nuclear installations, as well as the broadening and diversification of the programme of meetings on scientific, technical, economic and legal questions, should also prove to be of particular value.

109. The training of national cadres in the field of the peaceful applications of nuclear energy has continued to command the attention of the Agency. We consider that this area should enjoy increased attention both in terms of the allocation of funds and from the standpoint of the taking up of priority items.

110. The year that has just concluded marked a step forward as well with respect to the strengthening of the Agency's co-operation with other organizations in the United Nations system. Aside from the fruitful co-operation established between IAEA and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations [FAO], we should mention the co-operative activities entered into with the World Health Organization [WHO], the United Nations Industrial Development Organization [UNIDO] and UNESCO. With regard to the latter organization, the Agency has consolidated its co-operation with the International Centre for Theoretical Physics, and we should like to emphasize once again the activities of that Centre.

111. We should like also to highlight the increasing importance attached by IAEA to the problem of protection of the environment, both in respect of the discharging of the tasks entrusted to it under the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by the Dumping of Wastes and Other Matters and by actions undertaken in collaboration with the laboratory established in Monaco.

112. Within the context of the concluding of safeguard agreements between States members of the Agency in pursuance of the provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the tasks of the Agency will be greater. In the opinion of my delegation, it is necessary that in future the programme as well as the budget of IAEA should reflect in due proportion both the principal activity of the Agency, namely, the development of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and its subsidiary instrument, that is to say, the programme of safeguards.

113. The Socialist Republic of Romania gives a place of importance in its concerns for the future to development in the nuclear field. These efforts have been brought together in the national nuclear programme, the primary purpose of which, having regard to the years of the future, concerns the industrial use of nuclear energy, both for the balancing of the energy supply and for applications of this energy to production.

114. To this end, a national technological centre was decided upon in our country—the Institute for Nuclear Technology—and it is being set up now in co-operation with IAEA and UNDP. This new unit will facilitate the necessary links between basic or applied research and industry. With a view to the training of the necessary cadres for this new branch of production, there has been set up in Romania a Centre for Training and Specialization of Cadres in the field of nuclear energy, which will train workers, technicians and specialists who have engaged in higher studies in order to meet the ever-increasing needs of the economy.

115. A Centre for Nuclear Documentation and Publications has also been created. Provided with modern facilities, this Centre is responsible for relations with similar centres throughout the world, in order to obtain promptly the most up-to-date information in regard to nuclear activities, which it will classify and make available to research institutes, laboratories, industry and education.

116. These are some of the fundamental purposes of the activities of my country in dealing with nuclear matters. The attainment of these objectives will make it possible to create the necessary conditions to proceed to the construction of the first Romanian electric nuclear energy centres, in co-operation with States that have already developed nuclear energy up to the industrial production phase.

117. The concerns of my Government in the field of the peaceful applications of nuclear energy are an indication of the interest we take in international co-operation in these matters.

118. Having regard to the wealth of experience accumulated by IAEA in the activities that it has carried on heretofore, and the suggestions and proposals made by all States

concerned, my delegation is convinced that IAEA will be able to make an important and increasing contribution, in accordance with the provisions of articles IV and V of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, in its activity as the primary instrument for international co-operation in advancement of the principle of access by all States on an equal footing, without any discrimination whatsoever, to the benefits deriving from the peaceful use of nuclear energy, thus contributing to the advancement of peace and security throughout the world.

119. Sir Lawrence McINTYRE (Australia): The Australian delegation is pleased to take part again in the consideration of the report of IAEA. We shall be happy to support draft resolution A/L.703, which we hope the Assembly will adopt unanimously.

120. We are glad to join with all the other speakers in welcoming the Director-General of the Agency, Mr. Eklund, to United Nations Headquarters, for a discussion of this item. In doing so, we congratulate Mr. Eklund his reappointment for his fourth term of office. We wish him well in his task of carrying forward the important responsibilities of the Agency in making available throughout the world the peaceful applications of nuclear energy, bearing in mind the special needs of the developing countries.

121. The Agency's work in the past 12 months is summarized in its annual report, to which Mr. Eklund has just given a most comprehensive and helpful introduction. My delegation notes his remark that the Agency has given special attention to its responsibilities in respect of safeguards, to the impact of nuclear technology on the environment and to assistance to developing countries, and we commend it for its achievements under all these headings.

122. First, however, let me say that Australia is pleased that the amendment to article VI of the Agency's statute which will permit broader representation on the Board of Governors came into force during the year. The activities of the Agency will benefit from the election to the Board of more developing countries, which look to the peaceful applications of nuclear energy to help towards their objective of providing a better life for their peoples.

123. Secondly, Australia fully supports the technical assistance work of the Agency. Although we consider that UNDP should remain the principal channel for assistance given through the United Nations system, we nevertheless regard these activities of the Agency as an important aspect of its mandate, and we shall look for ways of offering increased assistance under its auspices. This year, in keeping with this policy, we have met our assessed share of the target figure for the voluntary fund and we have told the Director-General that we are ready to contribute a further 10 per cent if enough other countries do likewise. In any case, regardless of what others may do, we are paying an additional sum equal to 5 per cent of our assessed total this year. We expect to be able to make a similar additional contribution and a similar additional offer for 1974.

124. Thirdly, Australia attaches major importance to the Agency's work under the non-proliferation Treaty and pursuant to the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment.

125. One of the first actions of the Australian Government, elected towards the end of last year, was to ratify the non-proliferation Treaty. This step reflected the significance that Australia ascribes to that Treaty and, pursuant to it, we are now in the process of negotiating a safeguards agreement with the Agency to provide for the application of safeguards to nuclear materials in Australia.

126. To be effective, the Treaty requires the widest possible participation and support. If nations are to give support, they must have confidence in the Treaty and in the existence under it of an efficient system of verification. This is why we recognize the importance of the Agency's role under the Treaty. We believe, too, that confidence in the system of verification will be strengthened if it is clear that safeguards under the Treaty will be applied with equal effectiveness and equal impact in all non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty.

127. The Agency's report lays stress on its activities relating to the protection of the environment and the safe management of nuclear wastes. We can all recognize that the dangers to our environment from inadequately controlled industrial uses of nuclear energy are bound to transcend national boundaries. Co-operative international effort is therefore essential to ensure that full attention is given to environmental protection and in particular to the safety of reactors and the disposal of wastes in ways that protect the interests of all. My delegation accordingly welcomes the role which the Agency has accepted pursuant to the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment.² This, we believe, is continuing and vital work.

128. The Agency is also being given more specific responsibilities under the 1972 Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter. This Convention referred to the Agency as the competent body to define high-level radioactive matter which should not be dumped at sea. As a nation with an interest in every aspect of the use of the seas and oceans of the world, Australia believes that it is essential to find effective means of preserving the marine environment and of protecting that environment against pollution so as to maintain intact and healthy the marine life systems that are so basic to the existence of man on this planet.

129. We look forward to the development at the forthcoming Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea of a set of rules in regard to pollution that will supplement action elsewhere to achieve that objective. In the meantime, and for these reasons, we welcome the Agency's role as adviser to the international community on the dumping of radioactive wastes in the oceans. We urge both the Agency itself and its member States to discharge this duty in full consciousness of its importance.

130. Let me conclude by again commending the work of the Agency, by restating Australia's support for the work of the Agency and by reaffirming my delegation's support for the draft resolution before us.

131. Mr. GARCÍA ROBLES (Mexico) (*interpretation from Spanish*): As will be recalled, last year my country had

the honour of serving as the site for the sixteenth General Conference of IAEA, and from this same rostrum I had an opportunity to describe it as a symbolic act in the increasing co-operation of the Agency in speeding up the development of the countries of the third world through the peaceful use of nuclear energy.³ Today it is a pleasure for us to note that during the past year that co-operation has increased, as is shown by the report for the period from July 1972 to June 1973, so clearly introduced to us a few minutes ago by Mr. Sigvard Eklund, who ever since 1961 has been serving effectively and with exemplary dedication as Director-General of IAEA.

132. In this report, we are given a description of the most important activities of the Agency of the past year connected with the increase in the safeguards activities of the Agency, as well as with the agreements reached within the framework of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the safeguards agreement with EURATOM and its non-nuclear-weapon States. In the period covered by the report, an agreement also came into force concerning co-operation between IAEA and the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America [OPANAL]. That Agency, as is well known, is the permanent body created under the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America, or the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which, as was so well put a few minutes ago by Mr. Eklund, has gained fresh impetus this year thanks to the signing of Additional Protocol II by France and the People's Republic of China.

133. During the period covered by the report, the resources available to the Agency for programmes of technical assistance have increased. Similarly, there has been an increase in the number of so-called large-scale projects which the Agency is carrying out for UNDP; its collaboration with UNEP and various specialized agencies has also expanded.

134. With respect to nuclear technology, the Agency has stepped up its efforts to ensure that, as was mentioned a year ago by the President of Mexico, the name of the atom should not continue to be linked with the idea of death, but rather to that of a power capable of improving the conditions of human existence. IAEA has provided my country with fuel for a research reactor and also with technical assistance in the prospecting and exploitation of uranium. We have also received technical assistance in the sphere of nuclear safety and protection of the environment. The technical assistance programmes for research have continued in the spheres of medicine, the chemical industry, agriculture and food.

135. The assistance given by the Agency to my country and to other developing countries should be considered, despite its obvious value and merit, only as the start of a process, the final goal of which will have to be the elimination of structures leading to technological dependence and a better distribution of the benefits of the nuclear age.

136. Mr. RYDBECK (Sweden): First of all, I should like to express my delegation's thanks to Mr. Eklund for his

² See United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14, p. 3.

³ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-seventh Session, Plenary Meetings*, 2076th meeting.

detailed and lucid introduction of the annual report of IAEA. I should also like to congratulate him warmly on his re-election as Director-General of the Agency.

137. The report gives a clear picture of the Agency's aims and activities. Like earlier reports, it concentrates on activities in some major fields: safeguards, assistance to developing countries and the impact of nuclear energy on the environment. And it also spells out, in no uncertain terms, the budgetary problems that the Agency is unfortunately facing.

138. The number of States that have ratified the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is still considerably lower than that of those who have signed it. There is, however, some reason to hope that the rate of implementation of the Treaty and of the ensuing safeguards agreements with IAEA will now be picking up some speed as a result of the conclusion of negotiations between the Agency and certain important industrial countries. In this context it seems to my delegation relevant to recall the pledge made in article VI of the Treaty by the States parties—namely, to undertake to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date. Progress in that field has hardly been encouraging so far.

139. As far as safeguards are concerned, the Swedish delegation would like to point to the desirability of introducing procedures and systems that concentrate on what is strictly necessary from the safeguards point of view. In other words, the Agency should, in our view, utilize, to the greatest extent feasible, national control systems. In this way the system of implementing the Treaty through safeguards agreements will be kept within manageable and acceptable proportions and appear less cumbersome to the individual nuclear plants that are to be controlled. It would also be desirable, in the view of the Swedish delegation, to review from time to time the practicability and equity of the safeguards system in force.

140. The Swedish delegation is aware of the view sometimes expressed that too many efforts are concentrated by the Agency on safeguards activities, to the detriment of technical assistance. However, we think that the two fields could very well be developed side by side.

141. Budgetary squeezes are particularly regrettable in the technical assistance field. The Agency has a fine record as executor for UNDP projects and there is evidence of high efficiency in its training and fellowship programmes. The recently concluded IAEA market survey for nuclear power in 14 developing countries shows that nuclear energy is now becoming a factor to be reckoned with in the developing world, also for power purposes, and that the Agency will have an important role to play in this field. The Director-General's report on Agency technical assistance activities shows that the Agency is well aware of the planning- and problem-oriented policy which central United Nations bodies have instituted in the technical assistance field. No real problems seem to be at hand in relation to UNDP. It is, therefore, most desirable that technical assistance activities should not be curtailed, but rather that their volume should be steadily increased in real value. There is a constant concern among the developing members of the Agency

about the dwindling or stagnant resources allocated to technical assistance. We strongly hope that this trend can be reversed.

142. The impact of nuclear energy on the environment is a question that has come very much into focus in recent years, not least as a result of the impetus given by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment. My delegation notes with satisfaction that the Agency is increasingly involving itself in the problem of waste management and radiation protection. It is evident in all countries developing a nuclear energy programme that some of the more complicated aspects of large-scale nuclear energy application are to be found in those fields. The Agency clearly has an important normative role to play in the development of world-wide rules for the safe handling and disposal of radioactive wastes and for the conclusion of general agreements in this field. Experts in my Government are now studying the report resulting from the special panel on the dumping of wastes into the ocean, which took place this summer to help the Agency discharge its responsibilities under the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter.

143. It would indeed be regrettable if IAEA activities were to be endangered by the lack of funds. As the report shows, the financial problems of the Agency have been aggravated by continuing inflation and the realignment of the international currency rates of exchange. Sweden, for its part, declared at the seventeenth session of the Agency's General Conference this year that it was ready to bear its share, on an interim basis, of the increased financial burden resulting from the developments which I have just mentioned. But we have also urged that the risk of losses caused by fluctuations of the exchange rates be reduced by the Agency by means of holding its monetary assets in more than one currency.

144. The number of seats on the Board of Governors has been increased from 25 to 34, thus enabling a number of new countries, especially developing countries, to play an active part in the life and work of the Agency. We welcome this development. Sweden, which has also been elected to the Board, will try to contribute to the future work of the Agency to the best of its abilities.

145. With those words I should like to express the Swedish Government's gratitude and appreciation to IAEA and to its Director-General for the work that is being carried out by the Agency, to the benefit of all mankind.

146. Mr. WOLTE (Austria): The annual consideration by the General Assembly of the report of IAEA gives my delegation the pleasant opportunity to express, on behalf of the Austrian Government, to the Director-General, Mr. Eklund, and his staff, deeply felt gratitude and appreciation for the competence and dedication which the Agency has brought to its work in the fulfilment of its task.

147. This time it also gives me special pleasure to extend to Mr. Eklund our warmest congratulations on his reappointment for a fourth term as Director-General. During his terms of office a number of important decisions have been taken and significant treaties and agreements have been concluded by the Agency under Mr. Eklund's direction and active support. His outstanding qualities as a scientist and

as an administrator have enabled him to contribute decisively to the shaping of the Agency into an efficient organization fully equipped to serve a goal which is so vital for the further progress of mankind. My Government wishes and hopes that the excellent co-operation with the Director-General will be continued in the same friendly and constructive manner in the future.

148. In commenting on the report covering the period from 1 July 1972 to 30 June 1973, I should like to confine my remarks to some general observations on a few important issues.

149. Again the Agency has in its report rightly put the emphasis on questions relating to the implementation of the provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. It is gratifying to note that from a total of 95 non-nuclear States signatories to the Treaty, 78 States have also deposited their instruments of ratification. However, the fact remains that so far only 37 of those countries have concluded safeguards agreements with the Agency as provided for in article III of the Treaty. Here the safeguards agreement between the Agency and EURATOM deserves particular mention. My delegation would find it appropriate to address an appeal to those countries which have not yet done so to enter into negotiations with the Agency in accordance with article III of the Treaty with a view to concluding safeguards agreements.

150. Austria was among the first States to sign and ratify such an agreement with the Agency. The Austrian Parliament has also adopted a law stipulating the introduction of an Austrian national control system to facilitate safeguard controls by the Agency at Austrian installations in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty. We appreciate the Agency's support for our endeavours to find an expedient and satisfactory procedure for the technical execution of safeguard controls.

151. Regarding the expansion of nuclear industries in many countries, even greater importance will have to be attached to the technical perfection of safeguard controls and the co-ordination of national control systems with Agency controls.

152. For its activities in this field, the Agency needs adequate laboratory space to carry out the necessary tests. On 3 July 1973 an agreement was signed by the Agency and the Austrian Studiengesellschaft für Atomenergie for the construction of such a safeguards laboratory in Seibersdorf, near Vienna. Work will be started in the very near future, and the laboratory will be put at the Agency's disposal by the beginning of 1975. The three laboratories at present situated at the provisional headquarters will also be transferred to Seibersdorf in due course, as the Agency has requested.

153. It is gratifying to note that on 1 June 1973 the amended version of article VI of the statute which the General Assembly approved in 1970 came into force. As a result, the size of the Board will be increased to 34 members, thus affording a considerably larger number of developing countries the opportunity to serve on the Board—a development my delegation warmly welcomes.

154. The importance the Agency is attributing to the protection of the human environment and to the safety measures that must be applied if nuclear energy is to be used for peaceful purposes is an outflow of the ever-growing concern of public opinion in all countries with questions of environmental pollution. The principal reasons for the Agency's activities in this field are twofold: on the one hand, the realization that this work is necessary to ensure the required world-wide supply of energy; on the other hand, the awareness that errors in the application of nuclear technology would have more serious and acutely dangerous implications than any other form of pollution of the environment.

155. We therefore note with satisfaction that the Agency, taking into account the results of the Stockholm Conference, almost doubled the number of symposia and panels dealing with these problems in 1972.

156. As for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 2829 (XXVI), requesting the Agency to "study ways and means of establishing, within its framework, an international service for nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes under appropriate international control", we are again pleased to note that further progress has been made in this regard and that further international meetings of experts are being planned to draw up detailed procedures for dealing with requests from Member States for assistance in the field of nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes.

157. My country has consistently attached great importance to questions concerning nuclear energy and development. The Agency is to be commended for a further increase in the number of large-scale projects which are being developed and executed for UNDP.

158. My delegation wishes to lay particular stress on the fact that the contributions to the technical assistance programme of the Agency have reached a record high in 1973 and that the target which was set for this purpose will mostly likely even be exceeded.

159. In conclusion, as the representative of the Agency's host country, I should like to give a very brief progress report on the construction of the buildings for the Agency's definitive headquarters. After careful planning in close co-operation with the international organizations located in Vienna, work on the foundations began last spring. Rapid progress has since been made, and work on the superstructure of one of the office buildings is well under way. The application of the latest construction techniques will greatly facilitate the completion of the complex within the shortest possible time, while providing a guarantee for the highest international standards of quality.

160. I am authorized to give once again the assurance that the Austrian Federal Government, in co-operation with the City of Vienna, will see to it that adequate office facilities and the corresponding additional installations will be made available to IAEA at the earliest possible date.

161. Finally, I should like to thank the delegations of Czechoslovakia, Denmark and Japan for the draft resolution they have presented on the item under discussion. I am confident that this draft will be adopted unanimously.

162. Mr. CHAKRAVARTY (India): The annual report of IAEA for the period 1 July 1972-30 June 1973 is before us for consideration. Before I proceed with the statement of my delegation's views regarding the annual report of the IAEA, I would like to congratulate Mr. Eklund on his re-election for the fourth term as Director-General of IAEA. Mr. Eklund has made remarkable contributions to IAEA, both as a scientist and as a successful diplomat and administrator. We have no doubt that under Mr. Eklund's able and dynamic leadership IAEA will continue to function efficiently, as in the past, and will meet the needs of the developing as well as developed countries in the very specialized field of the peaceful uses of atomic energy. Mr. Eklund has given a very lucid and comprehensive introduction to his excellent report, on which I now wish to make some brief comments.

163. The technical assistance programme of the IAEA, which is one of the primary functions of this Agency, is financed from its voluntary contributions. The target of voluntary contributions for 1974 remained at \$3 million only, although, owing to inflation and currency fluctuations, there has been a considerable erosion in the monetary value of that amount and the consequent effectiveness of the programme.

164. India contributed \$45,000 last year, as against its assessment of \$44,700. Although our percentage assessment for 1974 also will remain at \$44,700, India has decided to contribute \$50,000 for the coming year. We hope that other countries will also find it possible to pay more than their assessed contributions so that the Agency could provide additional technical assistance to developing countries. India has continued to make available five training fellowships to the nominees of the Agency.

165. Because of the growing safeguards responsibility of the Agency, it has to spend increasingly larger amounts on these activities from year to year. The Agency is already considering a proposal to finance the technical assistance activities from the main budget of the Agency, rather than from the voluntary contributions. If this proposal is eventually accepted, it would assure additional provisions for technical assistance from the main budget so that technical assistance would not be dependent entirely on voluntary contributions.

166. IAEA has done commendable work in carrying out a detailed survey of the market for nuclear power in 14 developing countries. This work has been recently completed and will indeed be very useful to the developing countries concerned.

167. By an amendment of the Agency's statute, the Board of Governors of the Agency has been expanded. Consequently, the size of the Board will be increased by about one third, compared with the existing strength of 25, and a number of developing member States will be represented on the Board. This is a welcome step, since the Board will be more representative in character, and it is expected that the decisions of the Board will carry greater weight with the larger number of countries.

168. The Agency's work in nuclear safety and environmental protection has recently been strengthened through

voluntary contributions and some reallocation of priorities. Several studies in depth are now being carried out in member States on nuclear safety, and the Agency hopes to receive the results of these studies to enable it to scrutinize and co-ordinate the views and findings, which would be of great importance to all countries.

169. Paragraph 16 of the Agency's annual report indicates that a detailed review was made in February 1973 by a group of specialists in the work of the joint FAO/IAEA Division of Atomic Energy in Food and Agriculture. I note that the specialists endorsed the Division's approach of concentrating on the solution of the problems of developing countries, and recommended that the present general balance of programme activities be maintained. Programmes designed to reduce the need for chemical pesticides and fertilizers, such as the sterile-male technique for controlling insects, studies on the best use of fertilizers and the breeding of disease-resistant plants would undoubtedly be of very great importance particularly to the developing countries.

170. The distribution of technical assistance under different categories of activity and region has been illustrated in figure 2 on page 11 of the report. It will be seen that technical assistance for the prospecting, mining and processing of nuclear materials in Asia and the Far East accounts for only 7 per cent, whereas the assistance under this heading accounts for 16 per cent in Europe, 13 per cent in Latin America, and 10 per cent in Africa. It appears therefore that in Asia and the Far East there is considerable scope for devoting greater attention and technical assistance to the prospecting, mining and processing of nuclear materials. Only 4 per cent of the total technical assistance given by the Agency to Asia and the Far East is devoted to the application of isotopes and radiation in biology. Undoubtedly, this is one field where the developing countries in Asia and the Far East are likely to benefit to a greater degree by the appropriate and adequate application of isotopes and radiation in biology. I hope that the Agency will examine this question and find ways and means of increasing assistance in Asia and the Far East in these two specific fields in order to bring the assistance to a comparable level with certain other countries.

171. Table 3 on page 19 shows the voluntary contributions to the General Fund. It is gratifying to note that in 1973, 91.4 per cent of the target of cash contributions pledged to the General Fund has been achieved. However, it is a matter of some concern that the percentage of members that have pledged has been decreasing consistently since 1970. For example, 70.9 per cent pledged in 1970, whereas in 1973 only 56.9 per cent pledged up to the middle of June 1973. I hope additional members will come forward to contribute voluntarily to the General Fund as a token of their interest and involvement in IAEA.

172. It is interesting to note from paragraph 93 of the Agency's annual report that orders for nuclear power plants continued at a high level, bringing the total for the year to 46,350 megawatts. On the basis of existing orders, nuclear capacity would exceed 120,000 megawatts by the end of 1975, and 300,000 megawatts by 1980.

173. World nuclear capacity has been tentatively estimated at 3.5 million megawatts, amounting to 50 per cent of

total electric capacity, by the year 2000. Nuclear energy brings hope and assures the world of an alternative source of supply against the fast-shrinking reserve of fossil fuel and against an acute energy crisis suddenly looming large before the industrialized world.

174. At the same time, extensive use of nuclear energy would involve the problem of the assured supply of nuclear fuel and the tremendous task of the safe disposal of nuclear waste material. It would also involve the storage, handling and transport of radioactive materials on an enormous scale in diverse localities. The answer to these complex scientific and administrative problems would be studied by IAEA. The responsibility for the safe operation of a very large number of nuclear plants in the decades to come would undoubtedly be tremendous. Whether this grave responsibility would be discharged properly, in the interest of the people, would rest to a large extent on the advice and assistance given by IAEA.

175. Before I conclude, I should like to give a brief review of the progress made in India in the field of peaceful uses of atomic energy, and we believe it would be of interest to the developing countries in particular.

176. The first unit of the Rajasthan Atomic Power project, which became critical in August 1972, was synchronized into the Rajasthan Power Grid on 30 November 1972. This unit has been producing power at a level of more than 100 megawatts. The second unit of the Rajasthan Atomic Power station and the Madras Atomic Power Station are in an advanced stage of construction. Initial work on a new atomic power station at Narora, near New Delhi, has begun.

177. It has been decided to build a 100 megawatt thermal research reactor at Trombay using natural uranium and heavy water. The reactor is intended for scientific and engineering research and large-scale production of radioisotopes for industrial and medical use.

178. A fast breeder test reactor is being set up at Kalpakam near Madras with French collaboration. This reactor will provide experience in the design, construction and operation of a plutonium-enriched uranium-fuelled fast reactor cooled by sodium, which would also serve as an irradiation facility.

179. A demonstration plant for irradiation sterilization of medical products, which is being set up at Trombay with UNDP assistance, is nearing completion. Installation of medical equipment will be completed during this year and the plant is expected to be inaugurated formally early next year. A high intensity radiation utilization project, which will enable development work for the application of large radiation sources, is nearing completion in Trombay.

180. The variable energy cyclotron project being set up near Calcutta is expected to be completed soon.

181. A centralized radioactive waste management facility has been established to attend to the exacting demands for the management and immobilization of radioactive wastes and for the control of environmental pollution. Authorization for environmental releases is evolved and controlled by

the Health Physics Division of this research centre after having established the capacity of the environment at each site to receive specific radioactive wastes within adequate safety limits. This is accomplished by the scientific efforts of the Environmental Survey Laboratories. The environmental programme in India has been organized to maintain a close watch on environmental problems relating to waste dispersion and reconcentration processes, taking into account all relevant factors, such as environmental resources utilization, living habits and activities of the population in the environment.

182. Regarding draft resolution A/L.703, my delegation fully supports the draft resolution and hopes that it will be adopted unanimously.

183. In conclusion, I should like to state once again that the IAEA has been doing commendable work in making technical information and assistance available to a large number of States in the field of the peaceful uses of atomic energy. But, in view of the possibility of an acute energy crisis, the proliferation of atomic power plants, and consequent pollution problems, IAEA needs to consider carefully, and with a sense of perspective, the question of the evolution of its work programme in the next two decades to come, its priorities, its relevance and its contribution to the vast majority of its members in their efforts to attain a higher standard of living.

184. Mr. ZACHMANN (German Democratic Republic): It is with great interest that the delegation of the German Democratic Republic has taken note of the annual report of the Director-General to the General Assembly on the work of IAEA in 1972-1973. We would like to avail ourselves of this opportunity to explain our views with regard to some aspects of the activities of the IAEA.

185. The admission of the German Democratic Republic to membership in IAEA at the seventeenth session of the General Conference is in harmony with the endeavours made by the peace-loving States and peoples for détente, international security, peace and equal co-operation. This decision is an effective contribution to the positive changes in the international situation that have taken place recently. My delegation would also like to thank the delegations which congratulated the German Democratic Republic on its admission to the Agency.

186. My delegation proceeds from the fact that IAEA is a most important intergovernmental agency in the field of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The implementation of the principles of peaceful coexistence and the positive changes that have taken place in the international situation create favourable conditions for the fulfilment of the tasks of IAEA and open up new prospects for the effective work of this Agency in the interest of all member States. In this connexion mention should be made of the Agreement on the Prevention of Nuclear War, concluded between the USSR and the United States of America on 22 June 1973. This Treaty serves international détente and contributes to the strengthening of international security and increases international co-operation for the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

187. The German Democratic Republic has always shown a close interest in the fulfilment of the objectives of IAEA on the basis of the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter and supports its activities aimed at the peaceful uses of atomic energy. In this context, the consistent and strict observance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is of great importance. This important international Treaty creates maximum possibilities for the peaceful use of nuclear energy. That is why we have supported the bringing about of this Treaty from the very beginning and were one of the first States to sign and ratify it.

188. Even before its admission to the Agency, the German Democratic Republic concluded a safeguards agreement with the IAEA in March 1972 in accordance with article III of the Treaty and is consistently carrying it out. My delegation is convinced that the accession of more non-nuclear-weapon States, especially of the so-called threshold States, to the Treaty and the conclusion of safeguards agreements by those States with the IAEA will contribute to détente and to the strengthening of international security. My delegation notes with satisfaction that so far 95 non-nuclear-weapon States have signed the Treaty; 78 have ratified it, and 45 parties to the Treaty have concluded safeguards agreements with IAEA. As stated by the Director-General of the Agency, Mr. Eklund, in his annual report, safeguards agreements have been concluded between IAEA and the non-nuclear-weapon States of EURATOM at the beginning of 1973. Nothing, therefore, should now stand in the way of the ratification of the Treaty by the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and by other States. The ratification of the Treaty by these States would serve détente in Europe, the strengthening of international security and peaceful co-operation for the use of nuclear energy within the framework of IAEA both in the interest of the developing and the developed States.

189. My delegation pays tribute to the efforts of IAEA and its secretariat to put into practice the working programme of the Agency. Of course, we also see this working programme from the angle of the German Democratic Republic's participation in IAEA. The German Democratic Republic supports the fundamental objectives of the Agency's working programme for the period from 1973 to 1978, and it is prepared to participate in the implementation of this programme as far as it can and to place the experience that the German Democratic Republic has gathered in CMEA also at the disposal of IAEA.

190. Like many other States, we attach great importance to the fulfilment of the tasks by IAEA resulting from article III of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. In this connexion, the observance and extension of the security systems, of radiation protection and of nuclear security is of great importance. At the seventeenth session of the IAEA General Conference the German Democratic Republic representative already expressed the preparedness of his Government to participate in the implementation of measures to safeguard nuclear material, in particular, the expansion of the IAEA inspection system, the development of control methods, the elaboration of security rules, in measures for international control and in other tasks, such as the handling and removal of nuclear waste. Technical assistance and the relevant efforts of IAEA are very impor-

tant. The German Democratic Republic is prepared to contribute to the training of experts in the fields of isotope technology, nuclear physics, reactor engineering, radiation protection and information systems. The representative of the German Democratic Republic Government at the last General Conference also declared the willingness of his Government to pay an appropriate voluntary contribution in national currency to the respective fund of the Agency to promote, in particular, the technical assistance programme. Special attention should also be paid to the environmental protection programme of the Agency. The German Democratic Republic has always paid great attention to this humanitarian problem and considers environmental protection to be part and parcel of the construction of socialism.

191. My delegation also supports the expansion of the International Nuclear Information System of the Agency. We are interested in complementing our own "Information System for Science and Technology" by active participation in the IAEA System and in putting our own experience at the service of its further development.

192. Permit me, Mr. President, to avail myself of this opportunity to congratulate the Director-General of IAEA, Mr. Eklund, on behalf of my delegation, on his re-election and to wish him success and creative energies in his work.

193. My delegation fully supports draft resolution A/L.703, which is now before us.

194. Mr. YANGO (Philippines): My delegation was pleased to hear the introduction made by Mr. Sigvard Eklund, Director-General of IAEA, of the Agency's annual report covering the period 1 July 1972 to 30 June 1973. We are also pleased to extend to him our congratulations on his reappointment for another term of four years. It was a privilege for us to welcome him when he recently visited the Philippines.

195. The Philippines is most interested in the activities of IAEA, particularly those related to making the benefits of nuclear energy available throughout the world, bearing in mind the special needs of the developing countries.

196. It appears that within the period covered by the report, IAEA gave special attention to work relating to the negotiation of safeguards agreements in connexion with the non-proliferation Treaty, assistance to developing countries and the impact of nuclear energy on the environment. I wish to allude briefly to these activities insofar as the Philippines is concerned.

197. The Philippines ratified the Treaty on 5 October 1972 and signed the safeguards agreement with IAEA on 21 February 1973, an indication of my country's desire to comply with its responsibilities under the Treaty and to co-operate with the Agency in the discharge of its task of providing safeguards for nuclear materials to obviate violations of the Treaty. In this context, the Philippine delegation is gratified to note that two nuclear-weapon Powers, the United States and the United Kingdom, have offered to make arrangements with IAEA for the safeguarding of nuclear materials in some of their civilian nuclear installations. These arrangements should be encouraged so that the

Agency will eventually have a wider scope of responsibility in its supervisory activities under the Treaty.

198. Concerning the technical assistance programme of IAEA, my delegation is pleased to acknowledge the assistance extended to my country in connexion with its recent decision to put up the first nuclear power plant in Luzon. This position of the Philippine Government was the result of the completion of the largest scale nuclear survey in the Philippines, a UNDP project as described in paragraph 32 of the report. The Agency's role in this project dates back to the very first preliminary study in 1959-1960, when a special mission came to the Philippines to establish the project of nuclear power in the country. During the period 1964-1965, IAEA served as the executing agency for the UNDP pre-investment feasibility study on the introduction of nuclear power in Luzon. In 1972 the Agency played an important role in updating the UNDP feasibility study, and the final report which was submitted to the Philippine Government last summer was the basis for its decision to construct a nuclear power plant. The Philippine delegation to the last General Conference of IAEA originally acknowledged the Agency's assistance to this nuclear power plant project, an acknowledgement which we are privileged to reiterate here.

199. As indicated in the report, the Philippines is also interested in the peaceful uses of atomic energy relating to agriculture, particularly in food production and preservation. It has taken an interest as well in the exploration of the sources of uranium in view of the anticipated need for these sources in the generation of electric power through atomic energy in the balance of the twentieth century.

200. The strong opposition of the Philippines to atmospheric tests of nuclear explosives is well known. My delegation therefore supports the added responsibility of IAEA relating to the impact of nuclear energy on the environment and we agree to the suggestion made by the Soviet Union before the Assembly last year when it considered the report of IAEA that the Agency should be the body responsible for such international co-operation in protecting the environment from radioactive contamination.⁴ My delegation hopes that through the mechanism of IAEA, some arrangements or understanding may be evolved with regard to nuclear explosives which would take into account the harm done to the environment and ecology.

201. When one reads the report, it is to be noted that IAEA is also attending to some activities or programmes in response to the recommendations of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States. It is apparent, however, that the Agency is progressing rather slowly in this respect, a factor that gives rise to discouragement and disillusionment on the part of non-nuclear-weapon States, which look forward to the benefits that should be derived from the peaceful uses of atomic energy. The provision of assistance, technical and financial, to developing countries has not been forthcoming as should be hoped and expected. If we take into account the work of IAEA in connexion with the non-proliferation Treaty, we note that it is achieving more results in the carrying out of its tasks under the Treaty, whereas it is sad to see the meagre results it has achieved in connexion with the decisions taken by the Conference of

Non-Nuclear-Weapon States. It is the hope of my delegation that the States members of IAEA that are nuclear Powers and those others that are in a position to render assistance in the implementation of the decisions of the Conference will be able to appreciate this imbalance or disparity in the programme of work of IAEA and do something about it.

202. The Philippines has co-operated to the best of its ability with the work of IAEA. In spite of its limited resources, it has contributed to the voluntary fund of IAEA and has provided a limited number of fellowships under the fellowship programme of the Agency. As evidence of its interest in the technical assistance programme of the Agency, the Philippines, as it stated at the last General Conference, will contribute to the General Fund an amount equivalent to its regular budget assessment ratio for 1974. And as proof of the Philippines' increasing interest in the work of the Agency and the importance it attaches to such work, a permanent mission of the Philippines to IAEA will be established in Vienna before the end of this year.

203. In this connexion my Government is gratified by the recent election of the Philippines to the Board of Governors of IAEA for a term of two years. Our election to the Board signifies the implementation of a decision to give more representation to developing countries in the Board.

204. In the light of all the foregoing, my delegation fully supports draft resolution A/L.703 as introduced by the representatives of Japan, Denmark and Czechoslovakia. We trust that it will be adopted unanimously.

205. Mr. RAE (Canada): The annual report of IAEA accurately describes the important work being carried out by the Agency and the Director-General, Mr. Eklund, has very ably summarized the main achievements of the Agency in the past year.

206. We share the view, expressed by Mr. Eklund in his speech to the seventeenth session of the General Conference of IAEA in Vienna last September, that making the benefits of nuclear energy available throughout the world, particularly to the developing countries, and the administration of safeguards to ensure the peaceful use of the atom rightly remain the basic thrusts of the Agency's activities. We believe that these two types of activities cannot be looked on as alternatives, for they are complementary and equally in the interest of all member States. Neither activity is viable over the long run without the other. We consider also that the Agency is achieving a suitable balance between these two aspects of its programme, but that it must continue to examine the needs in order to keep them in balance.

207. The Agency is successfully meeting the challenge of greatly increased safeguards responsibilities following the entry into force of the non-proliferation Treaty and the widespread introduction of nuclear power plants. Although other arms control discussions are now taking centre stage, the continuing importance of the Treaty as the prime international instrument to prevent the spread of nuclear armaments should not be overlooked, and, in our view, nations should be encouraged to sign and ratify the Treaty.

⁴ *Ibid.*, 2077th meeting.

208. The signature by the Agency of a safeguards agreement with the non-nuclear-weapon States members of EURATOM is an important step forward and we share the hope, expressed by the Director-General and other delegates at the IAEA General Conference, that it will be followed by early ratification of that agreement and the non-proliferation Treaty by those nations and possibly other States not already parties. However, we also share the concern expressed by the Director-General over the rate of implementation of the Treaty. We trust that States which have signed but not yet ratified the Treaty will soon deposit their instruments of ratification and that all States already party to the Treaty will soon conclude the required safeguards agreements with the Agency.

209. The Agency plays a vital role in the implementation of the non-proliferation Treaty, through the administration of the safeguards based on the model agreed upon in the Agency's Safeguards Committee. It is recognized that with the expected huge increase in the number of facilities, particularly power plants, subject to inspection, advanced safeguards techniques will be needed. Canada fully supports the Agency's efforts to attain these goals.

210. The recent concern in many areas of the world over the eventual availability of traditional fuel resources to meet the world's growing energy demand, and over the environmental effect of the continuing heavy use of the fuels, has given greater impetus to the development of nuclear-power reactor systems as the most immediate and environmentally acceptable alternative to the more traditional sources of electrical energy. Although Canada is not lacking in fossil fuel resources in the short term, the Canadian Government has long shared the Agency's conviction that nuclear power has the potential of being a safe, non-polluting and economically competitive source of electricity for all countries.

211. In Canada this conviction has led to the development of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited of the Canada-Deuterium-Uranium of CANDU type heavy-water moderated, natural uranium fuelled reactor, the success of which has been demonstrated by the Pickering Generating Station of Ontario Hydro, which is now the largest operating nuclear-power station in the world.

212. Developing countries also are realizing the potential benefits to them of nuclear power, and a number of them have already constructed or ordered nuclear-power plants, several being of the CANDU type. The potential for nuclear power in the developing countries has been strikingly emphasized in the recent Agency market survey for nuclear power in developing countries. We see the survey as a valuable example of the type of assistance which the Agency can provide to developing countries to aid their planning of means to meet the ever-increasing demand for energy by their populations and industries. The Canadian Government hopes that the international financial community, and particularly international financing organizations such as the World Bank, will pay close attention to this report, which points out the immense financing requirements of the power-generating plants in the developing countries. We believe that the preparation of the market survey and other technical assistance work has been and is being effectively carried out, and the Canadian Government particularly welcomes the fruitful co-operation between the Agency and

UNDP in this field. Although we believe that technical assistance in the United Nations family of organizations should primarily be funded by UNDP, to which we make a significant contribution, we fully appreciate the importance of IAEA's voluntary general fund as a means for providing technical assistance that cannot be obtained elsewhere.

213. Accordingly, the Canadian Government considers that the voluntary fund should be fully subscribed and welcomes the news that the fund this year, for the first time, reached over 90 per cent of its target, and promises to be funded at over the target level of \$3 million in 1974.

214. Canada supports the increased emphasis by the Agency on protection of the environment and looks forward to fruitful co-operation in this field between the Agency and UNEP. Accordingly, we welcome the news that the Agency's Marine Laboratory in Monaco will carry out additional work in the field of marine pollution under UNDP funding. Similarly, we are wholly in accord with the assignment to the Agency by the London Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution of the responsibility to establish criteria for highly radioactive waste materials which would not be dumped at sea.

215. The Canadian Government is pleased that the amendment to article VI of the Agency's statute has now come into effect, thereby enlarging the Board of Governors to a new total of 34 members. The introduction of wider representation on the Board, particularly from developing countries, has, in our view, been important and timely.

216. Finally, I would like to turn to a pressing problem for the Agency and other organizations in the United Nations family: the budgetary difficulties caused by the fluctuations in rates of exchange over the past year, coupled with generally rising prices. The Canadian Government has been impressed by the Director-General's efforts to economize in the face of this situation without significantly affecting the Agency's programmes. It realizes that even the Director-General's best efforts in this respect could not avoid the necessity of additional appropriations if essential programmes are to be maintained. We consider the Agency's programme for 1974 and succeeding years as well prepared and financially responsible. Accordingly, the Canadian Government has indicated that it is prepared to support a reasonable increase in the 1974 budget to counter the effects of currency instability.

217. In closing, I would like to reiterate the firm support of the Canadian Government for all aspects of the work of the Agency. A suitable balance is, in our view, being maintained between the growing safeguards and environmental responsibilities and the more traditional promotional and technical activities. The Agency's secretariat has served the organization well, not least because of the outstanding leadership and wise guidance provided by Mr. Eklund. I would like to offer congratulations to him on his well-deserved appointment to a fourth term of office.

218. The Canadian delegation wishes to commend the report of IAEA to all States represented in the General Assembly, in the hope that it will receive unanimous support.

219. Mr. ZAHARAN (Egypt): Joining previous speakers, my delegation wishes to pay a tribute to Mr. Sigvard Eklund for his clear and enlightening introduction to the report of IAEA for the fiscal year 1972-1973. My delegation avails itself of this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Eklund most warmly on his re-election as Director-General of the Agency for the coming four years. Mr. Eklund has fulfilled most ably the responsibilities of the Director-General for the last 12 years and we wish him well in his coming term, assuring him of the co-operation of the Egyptian delegation to IAEA. We also welcome the new members of the Agency, the Democratic Republic of Germany and the People's Republic of Mongolia.

220. The report of IAEA for the year 1972-1973 has already been considered by the seventeenth session of the General Conference of the Agency, held in Vienna in September 1973, and has also been forwarded to the General Assembly. At this stage we have a few considerations we would like to set forth.

221. At its twenty-seventh session the General Assembly adopted resolution 2907 (XXVII), which mainly focused on two issues: first, the technical co-operation activities of the Agency and its projects implemented through UNDP contributions; and, second, safeguard responsibilities of the Agency in negotiating agreements for the application of safeguards with non-nuclear-weapon States. Among other countries, Egypt is supporting the role of IAEA in technical co-operation and the implementation of its projects in harmony with United Nations organs and agencies, particularly the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, UNDP, UNEP and the projected United Nations revolving fund for the exploration of natural resources.

222. One of the goals of the fourth International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, held in Geneva in September 1971, was to inform planners and government officials of the role of atomic energy and isotope application in medicine, plant diseases and food production, with special emphasis on integrating nuclear power into national plans and economies.

223. There are fields on which the Agency should focus more efforts and to which it should allocate increasing funds in its future programmes. Such fields *inter alia* are nuclear power to generate electricity and desalinate sea water, the use of nuclear explosives for peaceful applications and the exploration and exploitation of nuclear raw materials. Such fields are of growing importance in the development plans of the developing countries. Nuclear power is expected to become an important source of energy supply by the end of this century. Estimates given at the Geneva Conference in September 1971 show that by 1980 about 15 per cent of the total world electric energy will be generated through nuclear power, which it is estimated will reach about 50 per cent by the end of this century.

224. It is worth noting that the market survey for nuclear power in the developing countries, launched in 1971-1973, has been completed for 14 countries, and more countries have applied for similar surveys. Such surveys have been made, and could be made in the future, with financial and technical assistance provided multilaterally by the Agency, the International Bank and other regional institutions such

as the Inter-American Development Bank, and bilaterally by nuclear Powers. My delegation is gratified that the Agency was able to issue reports on the market survey for nuclear power, including a report on Egypt issued in Vienna in September 1973. For the 14 surveys to become a reality, my delegation recognizes the assistance and contributions, whether in cash, kind or expertise, provided by Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, India, Japan, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States. The result of the market survey shows the potentialities of nuclear power plants and production, including the cost study for the decade 1980-1989. The market survey has helped to put at the Agency's disposal advanced computer-analytical methods for making estimates of the cost of alternative long-term patterns of the expansion of national or regional electric power systems. Such data would be used in technical assistance projects and also in cases of nuclear power planning in the interested countries.

225. Another area of growing interest in the world, in both developed and developing countries, is the exploration and exploitation of nuclear power materials, such as uranium and thorium, to which IAEA should pay more attention and devote more financing. Besides the efforts deployed by the Agency and in co-operation with the International Bank and UNDP, remote sensing of the earth's resources by satellite is a promising means of nuclear material survey. Geological uses of satellite images are still in an experimental stage. Satellite observations have in any case to be combined with aircraft and ground surveys for any kind of geographical exploration. Through ERTS, EREP, Skylab and future outer-space flights, it is assumed, remote sensing of the earth's resources would contribute to prospecting and exploring for nuclear materials. Furthermore, the remote-sensing centre which is under study in the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space would play a role in the dissemination of information related to remote sensing for the benefit of the interested countries, the specialized agencies and IAEA. In addition, the master copies of ERTS images and data which the United States pledged to provide to the projected remote-sensing centre would assist greatly as far as the nuclear material survey is concerned. After studying the publication prepared by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations in 1973 entitled *The Application of Space Technology to Development*,⁵ it is to be noted that this study did not make any reference to the application of space technology to the exploration of nuclear materials or to the contribution of IAEA to this end. The Agency's activities in this field should be co-ordinated also in future with the responsibilities of the revolving fund for the exploration of natural resources when it becomes operational.

226. As regards the utilization of nuclear explosions for the implementation of development projects in the developing countries, such as civil engineering, mining, oil industries, digging canals, exploring for underground water for irrigating arid zones and so on, efforts are expected to be intensified by the Agency. After the November 1972 meeting of experts, it is hoped that the coming meeting of experts, at the end of 1973, will contribute to the establishment of procedures for dealing with requests for assistance submitted by member States in the field of nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes.

⁵ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.72.II.A.12.

227. With regard to the responsibilities of the Agency in the field of the protection of the human and marine environment, it is interesting to follow the Agency's programme in this field, in particular concerning the safe management of nuclear wastes. We have noted that such activities were endorsed by the Agency's Board and financed by special contributions provided by some developed countries.

228. It is interesting to watch the co-operation evolving between the Agency on the one side, and UNEP and UNESCO on the other in the study and implementation of joint projects concerning the impact of nuclear energy on the environment. However, a great deal of assistance in this regard is provided by the conclusions of the Committee that has been given the mandate of defining the Agency's responsibilities in the light of the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by the Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter. The definition of these responsibilities would, it is hoped, go parallel with the progress of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction and of the law of the sea as far as marine environment and scientific research are concerned.

229. Over the last few years the activities of the Agency, and consequently its funds, were directed towards two main fields: safeguards and the International Nuclear Information Service. Without minimizing the valuable implications of the above two sets of activities to various countries, it is nevertheless imperative to note that they do not find equal importance in the developing countries, which put more emphasis on technical assistance, generating electricity, desalinating salt water, using nuclear explosive devices for peaceful applications and exploration and exploitation of nuclear raw materials.

230. Concerning the technical assistance provided by the Agency, we are not fully satisfied by the decline in the Agency's receptivity to member States' requests. One way to correct this situation is to work in a campaign to increase and consolidate the voluntary fund in order to meet the growing interest of the developing countries as regards technical assistance. It is not clear from the Agency's report whether the developed countries were receptive to requests for assistance which the Agency referred to them and to what extent. The devaluation of the dollar has affected the real value of the budget estimates. This situation might be studied through the Inter-Agency Consultative Board or the Administrative Committee for Co-ordination for the purpose of avoiding further deterioration in the services and activities undertaken by the Agency and the United Nations family.

231. In this respect, my delegation notes with appreciation the statement by the Secretary-General of the United Nations before the Fifth Committee on 1 October 1973 and commends it to the Director-General of IAEA. In spite of the fact that Egypt's contribution to the voluntary fund for 1973 was over twice its assessed contribution, the Egyptian Government has decided to maintain its contribution to the voluntary fund for 1974 at the same level as that of 1973 even with the heavy burden inflicted upon the Egyptian budget and national plan due to the continuation of Israeli occupation of the Egyptian territory of Sinai since June

1967 in defiance of the sovereignty of Egypt over its territory and its natural resources.

232. Since 1968 IAEA has been an executing agency for nine projects financed by UNDP and implemented in several countries, not all of which are developing countries, namely, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Greece, Hungary, India, Pakistan and Romania. We hope that more UNDP-financed projects will be approved and implemented by the Agency in developing countries.

233. We welcomed the event of the signing of Additional Protocol II of the Treaty of Tlatelolco by France on 18 July 1973 and by China on 21 August 1973. That event will facilitate the task of the Agency in connexion with the safeguard applications.

234. The growth of safeguards has made it more useful to work towards standardizing safeguards procedures and operations to combat radioactive contamination of nuclear weapons or of all types of nuclear plants, including uranium-enrichment plants.

235. My delegation supports, as it has previously done, the expansion of the membership of the Board of Governors due to the fact of the increase in the representation of the developing countries in the Agency.

236. In the light of the remarks I have just made, my delegation will support the draft resolution sponsored by Czechoslovakia, Denmark and Japan.

237. Mr. ASSUMPÇÃO de ARAUJO (Brazil): I wish to begin by thanking the Director-General of IAEA, Mr. Sigvard Eklund, for his statement on the activities of the Agency since the previous session of the General Assembly. The unanimous decision of the membership of the Agency to reappoint Mr. Eklund to the post of Director-General is an expression of confidence in his ability and a recognition of his performance. Mr. Eklund and his associates merit our appreciation for their efforts to make the benefits of nuclear energy available to the developing countries and in particular to increase the flow of financial resources to the Agency's technical assistance programmes.

238. With regard to the Agency's activities, my delegation wishes to refer, in the first instance, to the technical assistance programme which is undoubtedly a most important concern for the developing countries, that is to say, for the absolute majority of the Agency's members.

239. An examination of the Agency's budget will reveal an incontrovertible fact: among the main activities of the Agency, the technical assistance programme has suffered the most from recent currency realignments and from inflation of prices and services throughout the world. The technical assistance programmes have been the only activity of the Agency in the last few years to suffer a decrease, in real terms, in appropriations. Other activities, in which the developing countries are only marginally interested, had their appropriations continuously increased. Although, according to its statute, the main purpose of the Agency is the dissemination of the benefits of nuclear energy to all countries, certain great Powers seem to consider it mainly as

an instrument for the implementation of agreements on safeguards.

240. As is known, the total sum allocated to technical assistance programmes carried out by the Agency in 1973 does not exceed the figure of \$6.8 million while in 1972 and 1971 those figures were \$6.2 million and \$5.4 million respectively.

241. If due account is taken of continuing inflation and currency realignments, it is fairly safe to state that in practice no real increase in the resources for technical assistance has taken place from 1971 to 1972 and from 1972 to 1973. On the other hand, it is also safe to state that annual increases in absolute terms in the budget of the Agency—such as, for example, from \$15,400,000 in 1972 to \$16,750,000 in 1973—have been absorbed by the Agency's growing activities in the field of nuclear safeguards, activities that are expected to grow as long as the number of agreements resulting from article III of the non-proliferation Treaty increases.

242. Despite the provision on substance taken by Brazil on the non-proliferation Treaty, my Government continues to participate, through its contribution to the Agency's regular budget, in the financing of the safeguard agreements resulting from that Treaty. But we view with increasing concern a seeming distortion in the role of the Agency—that is to say, the growing imbalance between its safeguard and technical co-operation activities.

243. It is quite apparent that two main functions of the Agency, namely, technical assistance and control, are increasingly competing for scarce budgetary resources.

244. This matter gives rise to concern regarding the future of the Agency itself. It is undeniable that certain Powers seem to attribute far more importance to safeguards than to technical assistance in a broad sense and that, in so doing, they are maximizing the role which the Agency might play in the field of control agreements to the detriment of its primary function, which is precisely the dissemination of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

245. As it has done in the past, Brazil continues to support the requests made by the Director-General for budget increases which, hopefully, should permit the intensification of technical assistance activities. In particular, we cannot but welcome the efforts made by the Agency, in compliance with the resolutions adopted by the Conference of the Non-Nuclear-Weapon States, to obtain from the international financial institutions favourable conditions for the financing of thermonuclear power plants in the developing countries. Although the costs of those plants have been stabilized, it is our belief that the access of the developing countries to the utilization of nuclear energy would be greatly facilitated if a new technology capable of bringing down those costs were to be developed through international co-operation. The Agency certainly has a very important role to play in this area.

246. My delegation has taken note with satisfaction of the fact that, in conformity with the recommendations of the Stockholm Conference, the Agency is intensifying its work in the field of radioactive pollution and in the identification

of the polluting agents. We, in Brazil, are conscious of the need to strike a balance between industrial development and its ensuing consequences relating to the pollution of the environment. Every effort will be made to maximize by available technical means the protection of the environment, while maintaining the stand taken by Brazil at the Stockholm Conference and at the last General Conference of the Agency in Mexico City.

247. To promote the improvement of standards of living, Brazil takes into consideration every possible way to increase power generation—hydraulic, thermal and nuclear—bearing in mind the related environmental problems to which such developments may give rise. In this context we take note with pleasure that the report of the Agency, in paragraph 38, makes special reference to the application of nuclear technology in agriculture in Brazil, assisting the Brazilian Government particularly in plant breeding and nutrition, and in achieving greater effectiveness in the use of fertilizers and the control of pests and diseases. Training and research activities are being carried out at the Centre of Nuclear Energy in Agriculture of the Luiz de Queiroz School of Agriculture in the city of Piracicaba, State of São Paulo, Brazil.

248. To conclude my remarks, I wish to reaffirm the confidence of the Brazilian Government in the high purposes and objectives of IAEA. It is our hope that the objectives of the Agency will be progressively and harmoniously attained, on the basis of a consensus encompassing both developed and developing countries as to the immediate tasks to be undertaken. Despite great difficulties encountered through the years, the Agency has rendered, and continues to render, very important services to member States, in particular in technical assistance.

249. The Brazilian delegation trusts that mutual co-operation will, now and in the future, allow the Agency's activities to expand in order to fulfil its main obligations towards its members.

250. From all that I have said it becomes clear that my delegation will not oppose the adoption of draft resolution A/L.703. But it is also clear that we have reservations about the language of operative paragraph 3 which, in our view, fails to describe accurately the current state of the technical assistance activities carried out by the Agency.

251. As to operative paragraph 5, my delegation would have preferred more restrained language, having in mind in particular the growing imbalance within the Agency's budget between expenditure related to safeguard agreements and to technical assistance.

252. Mr. PLAJA (Italy) (*interpretation from French*): The annual report which IAEA has submitted to the General Assembly gives a complete picture and a detailed evaluation of the activities of IAEA over the last year. My delegation has studied it with great interest.

253. Therefore, may I first on behalf of the Italian delegation offer my congratulations to IAEA and to its Director-General for the results reported in this document and also express the satisfaction of my Government at the recent re-election of Mr. Sigvard Eklund to the post of Director-

General, which is the best possible guarantee that the activities of IAEA will develop in the most effective way and yield the best results.

254. My Government is aware of the new responsibilities which derive from the fact that Italy was chosen for the Board of Governors as one of the most advanced members in the area of atomic energy technology. In this context we particularly realize the importance which a policy of co-operation with developing countries assumes. Closer and broader co-operation between the most advanced States and those which have recently entered the field of the peaceful use of nuclear energy is one of the most important goals of IAEA and, as we see it, also represents an obligation which is laid down by the provisions of the non-proliferation Treaty. In this connexion I am pleased to be able to confirm that the Italian National Committee for Nuclear Energy has increased by approximately 10 per cent the fellowships made available to experts from developing countries.

255. I shall not go into the details of the various activities IAEA has been busy with in the course of the last year, particularly since the Italian delegation has already had an opportunity to comment upon them during the seventeenth session of the General Conference of IAEA. I shall confine myself to a few preliminary comments. As representative of a non-nuclear-weapon European country I should first like to recall that recently in Brussels the safeguard agreement between EURATOM and IAEA was signed, and the ratification procedure has already been started by the Governments of the European Community.

256. Regarding the other activities of the Agency, I should like to make the following comments. First, my Government considers that the initiatives taken in the field of environmental protection are of great importance. We consider that by the development of adequate techniques it will be possible for us to ensure that the use of nuclear energy, while contributing to economic development throughout the world, will not at the same time endanger the ecological balance and nature itself. The nuclear industry has evolved in such a way that safety and the environment can now be fully safeguarded.

257. Secondly, we are also following with very close attention the studies being carried out by IAEA on the evolution of techniques for the control of nuclear material. That is an essential sector to which IAEA must continue to devote a large part of its efforts. In this connexion the difficulty is the necessity of taking into account two different major requirements—first, to ensure maximum efficiency in measures of protection and, secondly, to use methods that limit the inconveniences which IAEA controls might cause for countries.

258. Thirdly, we are gratified at the very significant part played by the Agency in 1972 in the field of technical assistance.

259. The co-operation IAEA has given the developing countries in some very important sectors such as agriculture and medicine deserves particular mention. The same is true of the study of the possibility of using nuclear installations for the production of electric power. In this connexion we have noted with satisfaction that the Agency has further

developed its activities in the field of technical co-operation with UNDP.

260. But it is obvious that technical assistance cannot be continued by the Agency without its being guaranteed adequate and effective financing. In this connexion my delegation considers that we should envisage the possibility of including those appropriations in the regular budget of IAEA to ensure that there is a balanced and dynamic technical co-operation programme and development aid programme.

261. In reviewing all the initiatives that have been taken and the work that has been done by IAEA in the period under study we cannot fail to welcome the constant and serious effort it has made and the progress it has attained in carrying out the obligations laid down in its statute. Consequently, it is an honour for me to express the support of my Government for the draft resolution approving the report introduced by the Director-General of IAEA.

262. Mr. MAHMOOD (Pakistan): In this nuclear age, which at the same time opens up vistas of accelerated progress and quick annihilation, the world is recognizing with increasing appreciation the very useful role IAEA is playing—on the one hand, in studying the benefits of atomic energy especially for the developing countries, and, on the other, in developing effective safeguards against nuclear hazards.

263. My delegation joins others in commending IAEA on its performance, and expresses its appreciation to the Agency's Director-General, Mr. Eklund, for supplementing the information provided to this Assembly in the Agency's report. We also offer him our sincere congratulations on his well-deserved recent re-election.

264. We take particular note of the Agency's efforts in concluding safeguards agreements, in expanding its technical co-operation activities and in surveying present and future nuclear-energy requirements in developing countries. We are encouraged to learn that about 40 States parties to the non-proliferation Treaty have concluded safeguards agreements, the latest being the trilateral agreement between the Agency, EURATOM and the non-nuclear-weapon States of that organization.

265. Pakistan supports IAEA safeguards, and has placed all its nuclear reactors under the Agency's safeguards. We cannot, therefore, fail to feel disconcerted over the fact that some reactors in certain countries continue to be kept out of the Agency's safeguard system. We should be extremely grateful if the next report of IAEA gave us a qualitative analysis of the status of the safeguarding of bilateral transfer agreements involving any countries not parties to the non-proliferation Treaty, with emphasis on the status of safeguard procedures which fall short of the pursuit procedures laid down in document INFCIRC 66/A, issued by the Agency.

266. If the benefits of nuclear energy are not to be confined to only a privileged few and if it is intended, as it must be, that the developing countries also partake of its boons, it is essential that adequate technical assistance flows to them. Although there has been a significant increase in the volun-

tary contributions to the General Fund at the disposal of the Agency, the actual assistance rendered to the developing countries remains at a very low level. The income has been eaten into by a 25 per cent increase in the cost of equipment, as well as by currency fluctuations. This necessitates greater contributions to support technical assistance programmes in developing countries.

267. We further consider that the substitution of specialized equipment for expert services may result in savings which could be used more beneficially for providing specialized equipment to the developing countries in need of such equipment.

268. Nuclear power, as a relatively cheap source of electrical energy, and for its uses in desalinization, has rightly interested a large number of developing countries in considering the installation of small and medium-sized reactors. Unfortunately, lack of funds prevents them from doing so. I therefore take this opportunity to recall the appeal, made to the Agency by Pakistan at a previous IAEA General Conference, to secure finances for the interested developing countries at low interest rates. We hope that international financing institutions and affluent States members of the Agency will favourably respond to this appeal.

269. We favour the growing co-operation between the Agency and the UNDP in the execution of projects for exploration and exploitation of uranium and in research programmes in the fields of agriculture, medicine and industry. We wish to point out, however, that the distribution of research contracts among various countries has not been

equitable. Some countries have benefited more than others. We hope that this imbalance will be corrected soon.

270. Pakistan is in a position to carry out research contracts in the field of medical applications and radiation biology. While intensifying our efforts at expanding the beneficial uses of atomic energy, we need equally to devote our attention to the questions of nuclear safety and environmental protection. The prevention of health hazards and pollution of sea water by radioactive waste disposal are fields requiring further research efforts. We support the recommendations pertaining to these areas as contained in the Agency's report.

271. The world-wide interest and concern in the matter of nuclear energy demand greater involvement of the world community in IAEA activities. The recent increase in the membership of the Agency's Board of Governors from 25 to 34 will, to some extent, help meet this requirement by making the Board more representative.

272. In conclusion, I wish to state that draft resolution A/L.703 enjoys my delegation's full support. We hope it will be adopted unanimously.

273. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): The Assembly will now proceed to take a decision on draft resolution A/L.703. May I take it that the General Assembly adopts the draft resolution?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 3056 (XXVIII)).

The meeting rose at 7.05 p.m.